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# AMERICAN SOCIALIST

OUR TICKET THIS YEAR

For President  
**ALLAN L. BENSON**  
For Vice-President  
**GEORGE R. KIRKPATRICK**

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## We Are Closing Up The Gates Of Hell

By J. L. ENGDAHL.  
THIS is being written on International May Day, May 1, 1916. After a year and nine months of world war, the growing hope of returning peace is making itself heard in all lands.

We are closing up the gates of hell—bringing to an end the international war in Europe; and in the United States the masters of bread are bending before the industrial war.

May Day in this country finds half a million men, women and children on strike for more bread and more leisure. At the same time the millions in arms in Europe are ready to strike for peace.

### WAR DANGER GONE.

NO greater message can be sent 'round the globe today than that there is no danger of war between the United States and Germany; that the American jingoes and the German jingoes have lost their power, that the peace-demanding forces are now in the saddle, that there is hope for civilization and humanity.

Today the workers of America, with hands unstained by the blood of international strife, can send their fraternal greetings to the workers of all lands and demand that they re-assemble as one, united, international host of proletarians, struggling for the complete emancipation from capitalism and militarism of the class that labors and performs all the useful and necessary work of the world.

As May Day dawned the German government was sending a message to the government of the United States declaring Germany had no desire for a break with this country. Let us hope that this message will pave the way to an early peace.

### DOOM OF MILITARISTS.

THIS peace will sound the doom of the short, hysterical reign of the militarists in this country. It is perhaps fitting that Roosevelt should have emitted at this hour, the final gasp of the jingoes in uttering his demand for universal military service at a banquet of the Illinois Bar Association.

The dying sentiment for universal military service is found in the decreasing enlistments which, according to the Washington correspondent of The Chicago Tribune, when displayed to the chief officials of the war department and to others interested in the administration's military program, "were read with consternation and a degree of discouragement which few of the army men made any effort to conceal."

Only 772 men were accepted at all the recruiting stations in the nation during the week ending April 22. This number fell to 718 for the week ending April 29, in spite of the huge funds used in publicity, and the alleged appeal of the slogan, "Help Catch Villa!" At this rate the army will have to wait a full year before being mustered up to the war strength desired by the tamer militarists, while it will never catch up to the demands of the shrieking jingoes now seeking to force "preparedness" legislation thru congress.

There will be army instruction camps for civilians this summer, on which the government stands ready to expend half a million dollars. The prediction is that they will be colossal failures. The business of educating professional murderers is not popular. Roosevelt, if nominated, will be defeated because this is not a nation of militarists. T. Coleman Du Pont, the "Powder King" who is Delaware's senator, and who is being urged as the "business" man's candidate for president, cannot even be nominated because this nation does not believe in profits in powder in the game of human slaughter.

### GRAFT IN THE MILITIA.

Recruiting for the national guard as well as for the regular army threatens to fall off as a result of the exposures made by Senator Borah in the U. S. senate.

Senator Borah cites figures to show that a large amount of the funds appropriated for the use of the national guard is confiscated by the officers.

"The money appropriated under the Dick military law has been shamelessly used," declared Borah. But that didn't prevent the august U. S. senate from proceeding to vote

## NO BREAK WITH GERMANY

By LUCIEN SAINT.  
WASHINGTON.—Wilson will not break off relations with Germany. If Germany wants to break off relations with the United States, that is Germany's affair. But Wilson will not break off relations, unless in the unlikely event that Germany should deliberately insult the United States by word and by deed.

This is as near the exact situation as it is possible to learn after consulting many authoritative sources.

FOR REASONS best known to itself, the press of the country, especially the press of the east, is trying to make as much trouble for the United States in its negotiations over the niceties of international law as it possibly can. Part of this is political activity directed against Wilson, part of it may be traced to the munitions manufacturers and thence to the allied defense leagues and militaristic organizations.

Wilson is clever enough to perceive these facts and to utilize them. In the opinion of many old political warhorses here, his last message to Congress and his note to Germany were masterpieces. He led everybody to think that he was going to make a terrific howl, and the documents sounded like a howl, but when looked over in the calm light of judgment, they meant little more than had been said many times before. They fooled the jingoes for a few days, and they fooled the German government for a few days, but they did not fool too long.

FEW HERE believe that the notes which are passing between this country and Germany represent the real situation. It is stated by a man recently returned from Germany, a man close politically to the present Administration, that the statesmen of Germany have it all fixed up with Col. House and Wilson that there shall be no break between the two powers, and that while Wilson is strongly pro-British in his leanings, he nevertheless looks forward eventually to an American-German-British alliance to keep the peace of the world. Therefore he will go very far before doing anything that might prevent this outcome. Also, as is well known, Wilson looks forward to being called upon to help peacemake the present war, and should the United States join the Allies at this late date, all hope of that eventuality would be lost.

Wilson has been lashed into saying the sharp things that he has said recently to Germany mainly by his political enemies. I can state it for a fact that Wilson will go to greater lengths to avoid war than any president who has been in the White House in generations. He is against war, and he is at heart against preparedness. He is sitting tightly on the lid till greater forces shall blow the lid open and him with it.

THE MACHINATIONS and plottings of the big interests who have constituted themselves the keepers and priests of the "honor of the nation" would form a story beyond belief fantastic and romantic. Their agents have been in Washington working in every underground way to poison the national mind against Germany, as the potential foe of the United States. Only the other day Senator Hastings of Wisconsin scored a headline by "exposing" the machinery whereby Congress has been flooded with petitions against war. Of course Hastings declared himself to be for peace, and all that sort of thing, but the tenor of his remarks were to the effect that anybody who forwarded a form petition to Congress to protest against war was a criminal.

Many of the petitions referred to by Hastings doubtless came from members of the workingclass, who know nothing about national honor, and who will use every legitimate means in their power to prevent war. It is partly fear of the workingclass that has helped keep the lid down here during recent war scares.

\$500 annually to every officer in the militia above the rank of captain. The officers will pull down the handsome salaries and pocket all of the graft while the poor dubs in the rank and file will wear their legs out drilling and then go out and shoot their brothers and fathers in time of strikes.

The U. S. senate was shocked when Senator Borah made his exposures. It will be shocked still more when the enlistments for the militia fall off to nothing. Even the militia dubs can help but get wise some time.

### VOTERS GETTING WISE, TOO.

All of which leads us to the prediction that the vote this fall will show a great awakening on the part of the working class voters of the nation. The old party jingo politicians are quaking in their boots these days over the vote cast for Henry Ford in the primaries in Michigan and Nebraska.

"What is to be done with this peace element and how it is eventually to affect the national elections so near at hand are questions that are vitally interesting to Washington," declares Gilson Gardner, one of the best informed of Washington newspaper correspondents.

"With Wilson nominated on the democratic side on a vigorous preparedness platform and Roosevelt on a platform demanding still greater preparedness, the pacifist vote will

## HELP HOAN WAKE UP THE DUBBS!

Have you taken advantage of the great subscription offer that is being made in our Henry Dubb Edition last week; a copy of that great book by Daniel W. Hoan, the Socialist mayor of Milwaukee, FREE with a six month's subscription at 25 cents.

This book, "REGULATION—A FRAUD AND A FAILURE," tells you how Comrade Hoan fought the big public utility corporations of Milwaukee during the six years he was Milwaukee's Socialist city attorney. This book is an exposure of the idea, that government can regulate big business. It is the book you have been looking for to wake up the Henry Dubbs for the fall elections. Send your orders to The American Socialist, 803 West Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

American papers these days than Dr. Karl Liebknecht. "This must create a lot of laughter in Germany. "The closest likeness to Liebknecht here at home would be Herr Most, if he were unfortunately alive. As it is, we are a little puzzled to make an order selection among Emma Goldman, Bill Haywood, and the labor agitator Maurer—all eligible and strong candidates for the distinction. "As a matter of fact, Liebknecht is a cockbrin who would be a joke if he were not an object of human pity. "As a member of the Reichstag he enjoys the freedom of speech enjoyed by every other member of that parliament, and so gets himself frequently quoted abroad. "But he represents nobody and no opinion in Germany except himself and the opinions of his own unholy band of followers. "To take the poor lunatic seriously as a man of importance is a grotesque joke."

JOKE IS ON HEARST. The unanimous verdict of human intelligence is that the Hearst sheets have made a "grotesque joke" out of themselves by publishing such an editorial. Liebknecht's views are being voiced by an increasing number of the members of the German reichstag and the restoration of peace will show that the militarists in Europe possess the "unbalanced brain" in the United States.

We are gradually closing up the gates of hell. The present decides who will be on the inside and who will be on the outside when they are finally shut.

### TEACHING PATRIOTISM.

From the Portland (Ore.) Journal. The other day a little negro schoolboy at Des Moines, Iowa, refused to "salute the flag." The lad's father was conscientiously opposed to war and its symbols and had taught his son the same faith. The child was sentenced to the state reform school for his refusal. How he will love the flag when he comes out. How he and his father will thrill with patriotism. The way to make citizens love their country is, naturally, to thwart them on the head with policemen's clubs, send them to jail for daring to speak their minds, imprison and fine them for acting upon their conscientious beliefs.

Starvation wages are also an excellent stimulus to love of country. Nothing makes a man fight so bravely for his government as the feeling that it has never done a thing to promote his welfare or increase his happiness. Once we Americans were taught to praise people for obeying their consciences, now we punish them for it.

1,000 GUNNER WANTED to man 1,000 guns to bombard capitalism. Details in the Million Dime column on page four.

The first Socialist member was elected to the city council at Grand Rapids, Mich., at the recent election.

Socialists have elected a member to the city council at Frontenac, Kan.

Socialists have elected C. T. Miliken justice of the peace in ward two of Pioneer, La.

Each one can help at least a little. Take hold of what is nearest at hand and do it as if the world depended upon it.

## Education in Mexico —and Elsewhere

By WILLIS ANDREWS.

The deplorable condition of educational affairs in Mexico is giving rise to many a "grotesque joke" among people outside of that country. It is claimed that the illiteracy of the people makes it easy for the exploiting class to rob and plunder them at will. That fact is admitted. But Mexico is not the only country to suffer from the legalized robbery of the working class.

Institutions of learning in other countries are muzzling educators who have the temerity to tell students of the unjust distribution of wealth. It is forbidden to explain the peculiar workings of an economic system that makes it possible for idlers and parasites to live in luxury and ease, while the producers of wealth eke out a miserable existence in squalor, hunger and rags. Scott Nearing lost his professorship in Pennsylvania University for no other reason than daring to tell the truth about conditions prevailing under capitalism. Prof. Althaus and other educators have met the same fate. The result is that other teachers have been terrified into silence concerning the most vital problems of the age.

Of course it is permissible for teachers to explain all about the integral calculus and logarithms, the conjugation of the verb "amo," and the deciphering of hieroglyphics in archaeological research, for it is by these signs that the student is pronounced an "educated" man. But in matters pertaining to fundamental principles of justice this same pupil may be as dense and as devoid of ethical perception as any peon in far-off Chihuahua.

So it would seem that the fate of Scott Nearing in our own country places us in a glass house from which it is manifestly unwise to cast accusing stones.

## U. S. SENATE GOADED BY PRINTING WALSH REPORT.

Washington.—The Senate listened with a sour face to a smart criticism of itself and methods before it ordered printing of the Industrial Relations Commission report.

Senator Hoke Smith had read this comment that appeared in The American Socialist: "Unless pressure is brought this report will be suppressed by the small group of reactionaries led by Hoke Smith of Georgia. It will be suppressed by the vicious system known as Senatorial courtesy by which the Senator often can block action."

"The report, like that comment, is a lot of bunk," said Smith. "I have no respect for anything the commission did."

"The comment on the Senate is fully justified," answered Borah. The Pointexter plan, for 100,000 copies of the report and 10,000 of the testimony, was passed. It will cost \$92,000.

## We Must Act

By ADOLPH GERMER.

INDEED, "these are times that try men's souls" and that require a firm resolve that this nation shall not be deluged with an ocean of human blood.

The armed crowd will not rest until it has thrown us headlong into the carnage that has sapped Europe of its flower of manhood and turned the warring nations into a slaughterhouse.

Shall they succeed? This question the workers, who must be the owners of the industries, must answer. And the answer cannot be delayed.

WHY MUST we have war? We are told that "International Law" has been violated by Germany in her submarine warfare. Is it not fair that each state have had no regard for "International Law"? Then why not spank them both?

Had Wilson warned the adventurers against entering the danger zone and had the criminal system of secret diplomacy been abrogated, the present distressing situation might have been avoided.

The well kept press is all astir and sends out inflaming headlines because some American lives have been lost thru the German U-boat policy. These lives, we are told, must be avenged. The crowd that is exacting the people had any real regard for "American lives," they would show it by protecting them here at home. The cry to avenge American lives is a shallow pretention, intended to befuddle the common people who are at the mercy of their enemies. Press for information! It has no other purpose than to arouse a wrath so they will willingly march to the slaughterpen and become cannon fodder.

THE REAL enemies of "American lives" are not abroad. They are to be found, as Scott Nearing said, "in New York, Chicago and St. Louis." And these enemies are growing fabulously rich out of the European tragedy. To embroil this nation into war will add to their fortunes. It is the inspiration to "avenge American lives."

Thousands of railroad men, miners, factory hands, workers in other walks of life and the traveling public are crippled and killed every year thru the reckless defiance, by the owners of the industries, of AMERICAN LAW. Why not declare war on the violators here at home? It will cost less and serve a better purpose.

About two million little child lives are ground into fortunes. American lives are ground into fortunes. American lives are ground into fortunes. American lives are ground into fortunes. American lives are ground into fortunes.

A THOUSAND times more reasons exist to engage in a war against the enemies of "American lives" here at home than against a nation because a few have ventured into danger, in some instances for newspaper notoriety. Are others to pay the price? The American people have been killed, 'tis true. But is that a reason why we should send more out to be killed? When that expedition gets killed, should we send a second because the first was killed? When and where will we stop?

Again, the "Navy Leaguers," the munition ring in disguise, will not go to the front. It is a safe bet that J. Pierpont Morgan, Herbert L. Saterlee, J. Fredrick Pams, Horace Porter, Charles Glover, Robert Bacon, Senator Clark, Charles M. Schwab and other Navy Leaguers and munition crowd will not shoulder a rifle and take a place in the very front rank where they can do some real "avenging." If they will not go, when they have so much to defend, why should we who have nothing to gain except to become heroes. Heroes? Gentlemen, I pass!

SHOULD we become embroiled in war with any nation because it has not killed according to regulation, the common people should arise as one man and drive the crowd responsible for it into the very front rank. Those who favor war should be forced to do the fighting.

The crisis is apparently upon us and we must act and act at once. The workers can stop the impending slaughter by refusing to be shot.

Tell Wilson, your Senator and your Representative that you refuse to fight, to murder and be murdered. If

## Print 10,000 Copies of Report Proving Socialist Contentions

WASHINGTON.—"The commission has proved the contention of the Socialist that political democracy and industrial absolutism can not go hand in hand," Socialist Congressman Meyer London told the House when that body adopted the resolution calling for the printing of the report of the U. S. Industrial Relations Commission. "Our progress," London went on, "lies in the direction of extending the principles of democracy to industry. The report as well as the testimony should be made accessible to the great masses. Let the American people know the facts!"

### EXPONES PLOT TO DISCREDIT REPORT.

LONDON exposed the criticism to which the report of the commission, over which the Senate has been wrangling for weeks and weeks. "A studied effort," he said, "is being made to discredit its work. It is urged that the work of the commission has no value, because the report is not unanimous. That there are, in fact, several reports, and that the lack of agreement among the members of the commission is in itself sufficient to destroy the value of its findings as well as the conclusiveness of its recommendations."

"The report could not have been unanimous, because there is no unanimity, because there can be no harmony in modern society. Naive people perhaps believed that if a group of employers, employes, and professors would get together around a table and 'talk it over,' the causes of industrial dissatisfaction would be ascertained and that a brotherly way could be found of allaying it. But the actualities of life disappointed these good people. It turned out that not only could not the members of the commission agree on conclusions and recommendations, but that each group interpreted the facts that had been presented in accordance with its class bias and class understanding of things. The representatives of capital on the commission could not under any circumstances get themselves to indorse the view that that principal cause of unrest was the fact that the wealth of the nation had been concentrated into the hands of a small number, and that this was the cause of the restlessness of the many."

### REPEATS MADISON'S PROPHECY.

LONDON reviewed for the benefit of members of the House the principal findings of the Commission. He quoted with effect the prophecy of James Madison, made during the Constitutional Convention of 1787, when he said: "In future times a great majority of the people will be not only without land but any other sort of property."

London declared that 100,000 copies of the report would not be sufficient to supply the overwhelming demand. "I myself have received requests for almost a thousand copies," he declared. "It is perhaps true," he added jokingly, "that the most intelligent people write to me."

## Idleness Pays Better Than Industry

By BRUCE CALVERT.

THE UNITED States government which should know says in its advertisements for recruits to the naval service: "Young Man, Think over what you have NOW and what promise the FUTURE holds out for you; then, learn what the navy offers you. Check up each and every item in the two columns which follow; compare item in the Civil Life column with the opposite item in the Navy column—then judge which column sums higher up."

### READ EVERY WORD OF THIS.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| IN CIVIL LIFE.   | IN THE NAVY.   |
| 1. Jobs uncertain; strikes, layoffs, sickness.   | 1. Steady and healthy employment, with good pay.   |
| 2. Promotion and advancement uncertain and slow.   | 2. Promotion quick and sure for deserving men.   |
| 3. Favoritism and partiality frequently shown.   | 3. No unfairness or preference; the best man wins.   |
| 4. Pay small and limited while learning a trade.   | 4. Pay good with chance to learn a useful trade.   |
| 5. Same old, monotonous, tiresome grind every day.   | 5. Travel, education, knowledge, change of scene.  |
| 6. Stuff, gloomy, uninteresting, working-place.  | 6. Fresh air, sun, sea; clean, healthful, athletic life.                                   |
| 7. When sick, your pay stops and doctor's bill starts.                                     | 7. When sick, pay goes on, doctor and hospital free.                                       |
| 8. If disabled or injured you receive little or no pay.                                    | 8. If you are disabled you get a generous pension.   |
| 9. If you die your family gets only what you have saved from your small wages.             | 9. If you die, six months' pay goes to your family,—with a liberal pension.                |
| 10. Little or no CLEAR MONEY; nearly all your pay goes for living expenses.                | 10. Your pay is CLEAR MONEY; no expense or outlay for clothing.                            |
| 11. Old age, sickness, little money saved, your job goes to a younger and more active man. | 11. After 30 years' service, retirement on three-fourths pay, plus \$15.75 for allowances. |

THERE you have it straight from your Uncle Sam. Industrial life in our great free land of America holds out no hopes for anything but uncertain jobs, strikes, layoffs, sickness; same old monotonous, tiresome grind day after day; stuffy, gloomy, uninteresting work place; no chance to save a dollar, and finally old age, or physical incapacity, thrown out on the scrap heap to die in a Henry Dubb pauper's home, and be buried in the Henry Dubb potter's field; while the loafer in the navy is taken care of, pay goes on all the time, doctor and hospital care free, lives the healthful outdoor life, sees the wonders of the world, and gets the pension roll for life!

How do you like the contrast Mr. H. Dubb Workingman? You produce the means whereby the millions live in comfort. Your hands supply all the boasted benefits of civilization. You create everything there is. The navy loafer produces nothing, but consumes the products of your labor. He spends his life doing nothing, but preparing to kill. Your life is wholly constructive. His is wholly destructive. He is living off your labor and training for what all the nations regard as the greatest evil on earth today—war. A thing without the slightest shadow of justification among civilized peoples.

REMEMBER this arraignment of the working man's abuses, this exposition of his sorry plight is not the mad vaporing of some crack-brained socialist. It is not the mouthings of the reformer. Not at all. It's the calm, judicial summing up of the industrial situation by the highest authority in the land—the United States Government. The government knows what it is talking about. It has in its archives the records of all the investigations into wages and cost of living and economic standing of every working man in the country. It gets its figures first hand. It cannot be deceived. These are facts.

Now what are you going to do about it? This is your problem. This is your government. You make the laws and you prescribe the conditions under which you shall labor. If you don't like the way the government, don't blame the employers, don't blame the capitalist masters. They have no power save that which you give them. Every time a workingman strikes for better conditions it isn't a plute or a capitalist that drives him back to work at the bayonet's point, but some other workingman.

YOU DON'T know what to do? Well, the socialists do. They are the only ones in this country who have a program that will forever put an end to such exploitation and abuse of the workers. They have a plan for putting the reins of power where they belong—in the hands of the workers. Every time a socialist casts his vote for socialism he is bringing nearer the dawn of the emancipation of all workers. Every time you cast your vote for any other ticket you are helping to prolong your own miserable condition. If you like things as the navy advertisement describes, vote your old party tickets with the rest of the Henry Dubbs. If you want a chance for your life and your children's lives vote this year for SOCIALISM.

It requires the General Strike to enforce our mandate, then let us strike. AND, IF AFTER ALL OUR EFFORTS THE HUMAN VULTURES FORCE THIS NATION TO FIGHT, LET US BURN OUR PORCES AGAINST THOSE WHO HAVE ENSLAVED US AND FIGHT FOR THE FREEDOM OF THE WORKING CLASS.

Readers of The American Socialist who desire Anti-War literature and news regarding pending military bills in Congress, can secure same by writing to the American Union Against Militarism, 640 Muncie Bldg., Washington, D. C.

School election at Bay View, Wash., resulted in Socialists getting control of the board of education.

### COSSACKS DEFEATED.

Assailing the bill to create a State Constabulary force in New York as a measure aimed to establish an organized band of strikebreakers, Socialist Assemblyman Abraham I. Shipplacoff on the floor of the House flayed the legislators for their attempt to rush thru the act at the very last hour of the present session. The bill was defeated by a vote of 67 yeas to 59 ayes.

### A NEW PLAN!

Read the Million Dime Column on page four for full particulars.



# The American Socialist

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WALTER LANFERNER, Business Manager  
RYAN WALKER, Cartoonist

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SATURDAY, MAY 6, 1916.

## NEWS OF THE WEEK

Here is all the week's news worth while boiled down for workers so busy fighting for Socialism they do not have time to read the daily capitalist papers.

### FRIDAY, APRIL 21.

Chicago jurist in \$50,000 damage suit decides Lord Bacon and not Shakespeare wrote plays and poems credited to him.

Theodore Roosevelt plans to tour middle west before national political conventions in June.

Pres. Wilson hears protest of Japan against restrictions on Japanese immigration.

### SATURDAY, APRIL 22.

Henry Ford says he is willing to be candidate for president but declares he will not foot the bill.

French retake trenches on Dead Man's Hill, which were captured by Germans in night attack with liquid.

Pres. Wilson's note on submarine warfare sent to Germany is published in Teutonic empire.

### SUNDAY, APRIL 23.

War Secretary Baker announces Gen. Funston's plan for redesigning United States troops in Mexico has been approved.

Berlin believed ready to make concessions in submarine warfare which are demanded by United States.

### MONDAY, APRIL 24.

Sir Roger Casement, Irish separatist leader, captured from German ship seeking to land arms in Ireland; ship sunk.

Three Zeppelins in raid on England; Turks bayonet way to victory over British in Mesopotamia and report enemy loss of 2,000 dead.

Gen. Scott, chief of U. S. staff, to meet Gen. Oregon, Carranza war minister, in "war" party on border.

### TUESDAY, APRIL 25.

British warships drive off German fleet attacking English coast after 20 minute battle; no sea losses on either side.

Members of American Embargo Conference send 20,000 telegrams to congress protesting against war with any nation.

Great Britain sends note to President Wilson, defending enforcement of starvation blockade against Germany.

Dublin, capital of Ireland, smoldering volcano as result of 24 hours of street fighting following uprising of Sinn Feiners.

California southern union announces that workers of United States lose \$500,000 owing to sickness.

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26.

Two Americans killed and several wounded when Dorr's cavalry clashes with Villa bandits in western Chihuahua; Americans told to leave Durango City.

Sir Roger Casement prisoner in London Tower as British government takes drastic steps to suppress Dublin revolt and wipe out Irish Sinn Fein Society.

### THURSDAY, APRIL 27.

U. S. senate immigration committee plans to eliminate from Burnett bill sections offensive to Japanese government.

U. S. Ambassador Gerard goes to headquarters of Kaiser to confer on submarine issue; Berlin still hopes for compromise.

Maj. Gen. Sir John Maxwell of the British army sent to take charge of Ireland, with plenary powers over the whole country under martial law.

Five more neutral vessels sunk by German submarines; French certain of five forces Germans to hug trenches in Verdun sector.

### WHERE DO WE STAND.

"I note in recent issues of The American Socialist some boosts for industrial unionism," writes A. James McDonald, of Clayton, New Mexico. "Has not the party officially adopted a neutral policy as between craft and industrial union methods of organization? If so, are not such writings by you violations of the spirit of the party's policy?"

"Going into the merits of the policy very briefly," continues Comrade McDonald, "cannot craft unions, by federating, accomplish exactly the same things industrial unions can? Cannot craft unions, in other words, federate into units large enough and closely enough united to be as effective as industrial unions. You may publish this if you wish, but I do not specially so request."

It might be well at this time to republish the report of the committee on labor organizations and their relation to the party, adopted

unanimously by the Indianapolis (1912) national convention of the Socialist Party, which is as follows: "Political organization and economic organization are alike necessary in the struggle for working class emancipation. The most harmonious relations ought to exist between the two great forces of the working class moved by the Socialist Party and the Labor Union."

"The labor movement of the United States has of recent years made marvelous progress in all directions. It has steadily increased in numbers and has reached trades and industries which were before unorganized. It has in many instances concentrated its power and increased its efficiency by the amalgamation of related trades into federations and industrial unions. Many unions have opened their meetings and journals to the discussion of vital social and political problems and the demoralizing politics represented by the National Civic Federation. The organized workers are rapidly developing an enlightened and militant class consciousness."

"The reality of this progress is attested by the increasing virulence with which the organized capitalists wage their war against the union. This improved economic organization is not a matter of abstract theory, but grows out of the experience of the wage workers, in the actual struggle with those actually engaged in the struggle in the various trades and industries can solve the problem of the form of organization."

"The Socialist Party therefore reaffirms the position it has always taken with regard to the movement of organized labor."

"That the party has neither the right nor the desire to interfere in any controversy which may exist within the labor union movement over questions of forms of organization or technical methods of action in the industrial struggle, but that the labor organizations themselves to solve these questions."

"2. That the Socialists call the attention of their brothers in the labor unions to the vital importance of the task of organizing the unorganized, especially the immigrants and the agricultural laborers, who stand in greatest need of organized protection and who will constitute a great menace to the progress and welfare of organized labor, if they remain neglected. The Socialist Party will ever be ready to co-operate with the labor organizations in the task of organizing the unorganized workers, and urges all labor organizations who have not already done so, to throw the doors wide open to the workers of their respective trades and industries, abolishing all onerous conditions of membership and artificial restrictions in the face of the tremendous powers of the American capitalists and their close industrial and political union, the workers of this country can win their battles only by a strong class-consciousness and closely united organizations on the economic field, the political field and by joint attack of both on the common enemy."

"3. That it is the duty of the party to give moral and material support to the labor organizations in all their defensive or aggressive struggles against capitalist oppression and exploitation, for the protection and extension of the rights of the wage workers and the betterment of their material and social condition."

"4. That it is the duty of the members of the Socialist Party who are eligible to membership in the unions to join and be active in their respective labor organizations."

This declaration points out that the labor movement "has in many instances concentrated its power and increased its efficiency by the amalgamation of related trades into federations and industrial unions". No well informed person will deny that this is the trend of development in the labor movement. The editor does not believe that the spirit of the party's policy, as outlined in this declaration, "cannot craft unions, in other words, federate into units large enough and closely enough united to be as effective as industrial unions. You may publish this if you wish, but I do not specially so request."

It might be well at this time to republish the report of the committee on labor organizations and their relation to the party, adopted

unanimously by the Indianapolis (1912) national convention of the Socialist Party, which is as follows: "Political organization and economic organization are alike necessary in the struggle for working class emancipation. The most harmonious relations ought to exist between the two great forces of the working class moved by the Socialist Party and the Labor Union."

"The labor movement of the United States has of recent years made marvelous progress in all directions. It has steadily increased in numbers and has reached trades and industries which were before unorganized. It has in many instances concentrated its power and increased its efficiency by the amalgamation of related trades into federations and industrial unions. Many unions have opened their meetings and journals to the discussion of vital social and political problems and the demoralizing politics represented by the National Civic Federation. The organized workers are rapidly developing an enlightened and militant class consciousness."

"The reality of this progress is attested by the increasing virulence with which the organized capitalists wage their war against the union. This improved economic organization is not a matter of abstract theory, but grows out of the experience of the wage workers, in the actual struggle with those actually engaged in the struggle in the various trades and industries can solve the problem of the form of organization."

"The Socialist Party therefore reaffirms the position it has always taken with regard to the movement of organized labor."

"That the party has neither the right nor the desire to interfere in any controversy which may exist within the labor union movement over questions of forms of organization or technical methods of action in the industrial struggle, but that the labor organizations themselves to solve these questions."

"2. That the Socialists call the attention of their brothers in the labor unions to the vital importance of the task of organizing the unorganized, especially the immigrants and the agricultural laborers, who stand in greatest need of organized protection and who will constitute a great menace to the progress and welfare of organized labor, if they remain neglected. The Socialist Party will ever be ready to co-operate with the labor organizations in the task of organizing the unorganized workers, and urges all labor organizations who have not already done so, to throw the doors wide open to the workers of their respective trades and industries, abolishing all onerous conditions of membership and artificial restrictions in the face of the tremendous powers of the American capitalists and their close industrial and political union, the workers of this country can win their battles only by a strong class-consciousness and closely united organizations on the economic field, the political field and by joint attack of both on the common enemy."

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## Election of Debs Would Be Blessing.

By MEYER LONDON.  
Lone Socialist Congressman NOW!

Eugene V. Debs, by his life and personality, gives the lie to the argument so often used by the enemy that Socialism is materialistic and that its advocates confine their activities and their thought to the promotion of the economic interests of the masses.

Debs is a dreamer, a student, a thinker, and, above all, a lover. He loves the working class, and to him the working class means the whole of humanity. One wonders how he can retain so much love for the individual man with such a detestation of the iniquitous system built up by the collective stupidity and iniquity of man. But such is Debs.

His election to Congress would be a blessing.

the demand for greater and greater solidarity, until it becomes a compact organization, call it a federation, industrial union, mass union, or anything you please. We should not quibble over names. The thing itself is what we are after—"a strong class-consciousness and closely united organization on the economic field, a powerful and militant party on the political field and by joint attack of both on the common enemy."

## IN THE WORLD OF LABOR.

By Max S. Hayes.

THE ORGANIZED workers at York, Pa., want to know how about it. Prof. Wanner, Superintendent of Schools in that city, who had no objection to 10-year-old boys working in the textile mills and staying out of school for the purpose of producing profits for the company, has now issued orders to teachers to enforce school attendance of those same boys who have gone out on strike and are now doing picket duty. The local labor unions have taken this matter up, and are asking who owns the professors.

THE LOS ANGELES Times, the leading labor-hating organ in the country, has just lost its third libel suit to Joseph Scott, who acted as one of the attorneys for the defendant in the McNamara case. The Times could not forgive its engaging in that case and started out to ruin him by reflecting on his character as a citizen and professionally. Now the Times is called upon to pay Scott a total of \$68,500.

THE NEW YORK Volkszeitung, German-speaking workers' daily paper, in the surveying list of States in which the politicians are making every effort possible to secure the passage of laws creating Constabularies, declares with good reason that this Cossack question has become a national issue.

AT PORTSMOUTH, O., the unionists told the city firemen that if they want their assistance to secure improved conditions they must organize into a union which will exist in the city firemen are also moving and expect to get the two-platoon system.

UNION folk in Pittsburgh have undertaken the difficult task of naturalizing foreign workers—many thousands of whom are doing it at that district. At the same time the foreigners are given some of the gospel of organization and its benefits.

CENTRAL Labor Union at Lancaster, Pa., is one of the latest city central organizations to adopt resolutions denouncing the schemes of the militarists.

The increased cost of living in England has had the effect of giving great impetus to the co-operative movement. During the past year the gain in membership of the co-operative societies has been 176,000, or about double the increase the year before the war. The British societies do a wholesale as well as retail business, and they do not exist in a quiet corner that the cost of the necessities of life in that country would be considerably higher than they are at present.

The pious and patriotic Standard Oil officials are petitioning to have a militia company established at Richmond, a town near San Francisco, and the working people are discussing the matter with great interest. "Wonder why the workers do not start the petition?" asks the Oakland World, and answers itself: "Oh, they will do the joining and the shooting when Standard employ get dissatisfied with the company's ways and strike."

Another problem, and a serious one, is confronting the Socialists of Italy. Their attitude is almost solidly opposing the war and refusing to condone it despite all the pressure brought against them by the ruling class has served to attract thousands of other anti-war people to their movement. But these elements have a hazy understanding of the principles of socialism, and the fear is expressed that if they were admitted to the party organization they would raise the deuce. Consequently the party has sent a warning to locals to exercise great care in the matter of accepting new members.

The national convention of the Socialist Labor party opened its sessions in New York, April 29. Important questions will come up for discussion, such as the national platform, unity, international Socialist movement, "national defense," etc.

After the secession of 30 delegates, who protested against the anti-war policy, the British Socialist party, in conference at Salford, England, adopted resolutions favoring the speedy termination of the war.

WOMEN CAN FIGHT in this army, 1,000 women wanted to do field work and supply ammunition. Read the Million Dime Column on page four.

## Wilson Up Against It

By LUCIEN SAINT.

WASHINGTON.—Big business is slowly gathering itself together to support any candidate for the presidency of the United States who can beat Wilson and who will conserve the big business interests of the country. Agents of big business who flocked into Washington, mysteriously float out again on all sorts of errands for big business, are unanimously against the Administration. The trouble with it is that it has played the game of little business, and has been rude if not harmful to big business.

For the first time in history the Steel Trust has been aroused to the point of advertising in the newspapers to defeat legislation opposed to its desires. Thru its subsidiary, the Bethlehem Steel Company, the Steel Trust has been aiming at the Secretary of the Navy and his proposed government-owned and operated armor plant. The Steel Trust usually has its men in the Government and in Congress in such numbers that it does not have to advertise. But now, driven to the wall by the fact that Joseph Daniels, its resorting to the same methods as those now being employed by the railroad—direct, paid, advertising appeal to the people.

## AFRAID OF WILSON.

THE STEEL Trust will not vote for Representatives of many big protected industries, such as those dependent on Germany for dyestuffs, will not vote for Wilson. He has failed to protect them.

The telephone and telephone interests are leary of Wilson because of the recommendation of his Postmaster General in favor of Government-owned wires.

The ship-building and -owning interests are against Wilson because of his advocacy of a government merchant marine and of his signing of the La Follette Seamen's Act. They will not vote for him.

The railroads distrust Wilson, that he has given them two good friends on the Interstate Commerce Commission.

The National Association of Manufacturers will use its influence against Wilson for the sole reason that he has in his cabinet a Secretary of Labor who is a union man and who recommends occasional legislation for the benefit of organized labor.

The big munitions and militaristic interests will vote against Wilson because he has not sincerely and heartily advocated preparedness.

## IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD.

THE TROUBLE with the Wilson administration is that, like the middle class, it is perpetually falling between two stools. It is neither for capital nor for labor, and it is a little for both. It is middle-of-the-road. Unquestionably Wilson and many of the men close to him share the distrust of the small business man and reformer for the big business crowd. Wilson does not consult with big business men. He is afraid of contamination. Neither does he consult with labor, for that is, perhaps, a worse contamination. His ideal world is one of college professors who read Wordsworth to their daughters and who think it is very exciting to go to a baseball game.

Attempts will be made in the forthcoming campaign to paint Wilson as the friend of the laboring man. Of course this is a joke. He is not much less than he is a friend of big business. He is scared of the laboring man—as all honest middle class apostles must be.

## WENT TO WRONG SHOP.

ORGANIZED labor forced the Democratic politicians to destroy an anti-labor edition of the Jefferson day dinner at which Wilson spoke because the union label was left off. The politicians saved themselves quite by accident, for they took the job to an open shop in the first place, and later had to go to a union shop. This is significant as showing the attitude of political Washington towards the open shop," declares a Republican politician.

It is significant of the attitude of the Administration. It had to go blundering ahead and let the contract to a non-union shop at first for the reason that it is not the kind of Administration that pays any attention to labor matters till it has to. Then, when it discovered that the unions were going to make trouble for dear old Woodrow, it took another long look. It finally decided to accept the lesser of the two evils and go to the right kind of shop.

But it didn't want to, and it wouldn't have to, if it hadn't been forced to. You can bank on that.

## FOND OF STATISTICS.

IS FEDERAL Commissioner of Labor Statistics Royal Meeker running his office in accordance with the interests of the wage earners of the United States, or is he betraying their interests?

This question is very pertinent just now when Congress is considering a

resolution calling for \$6,000 to study the cost of living in the District of Columbia, and during the pendency, also, of a bill to create a Woman's Division in the Department of Labor.

Meeker, it is declared, is opposing the proposed investigation by pretending that it would cost a sum of money which Congress would not willingly appropriate. Last year the same proposition was killed by one of Meeker's subordinates.

The National Women's Trade Union League is demanding the creation of a Woman's Division in the Department of Labor, independent of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. It has had a bill for this purpose introduced into Congress. Up to a few months ago there was a Woman's Division, which existed, however, at the pleasure of the Commissioner, and since Meeker did not please to continue it, it melted away. The able and far sighted women who were doing the work of this division had no other course left open but to resign, which they did, and the working women of the country have Meeker to blame for their loss to the Government.

No one ever heard of Meeker till Wilson picked him up out of an assistant professorship at Princeton and made him Commissioner of Labor and Statistics. Meeker never made a particular study of labor, and he is entirely academic and conservative in his outlook. On more than one occasion he has refused to cooperate with people both in and out of the Government. His holding of this job is a bitter mistake, and the sooner he is removed from the country the better it will be.

Meeker is fond of useless statistics that prove nothing in particular.

12 SOCIALIST CONGRESSMEN can be elected this fall if our guns are aimed right. If you have a good aim, there's a job for you. Read the new plan announced in the Million Dime Column on page four.

## WOMAN RUNS FOR CONGRESS.

Dr. Elizabeth M. Baer, of Philadelphia, Socialist candidate for congress, is also a suffragist. She says:

"As far as I know, I am the first woman to run for congress east of the Mississippi, and certainly the first of my sex in Pennsylvania. But that fact does not matter. I have been selected, not on account of my sex, but in spite of it. Were I a member of congress I should put my heart and soul in the fostering of any laws that would ameliorate conditions affecting the health of women and children. I should oppose any exploiting of the female, who, regardless of her age, is compelled to work for a living. I should try with every ounce of my strength to secure legislation which would affect for the betterment national feminine health. There is a vast field in just this sort of propaganda—a field that is as full of humanity as it is of socialist doctrine."

## IF YOU CAN LOAD 30 DIMES INTO A GUN

then read the Million Dime Column for further particulars.

## MEN STRIKE ON GOVERNMENT RAILROAD IN ALASKA.

The Socialist party of Anchorage, Alaska, has wired The American Socialist asking for its assistance in securing higher wages and better conditions for the men employed by the government in the construction of the Alaska railways.

The government has ordered 50 soldiers of the 14th Infantry to proceed from Fort Liscom to Anchorage to guard the railway terminal.

The telegram sent to The American Socialist reads as follows:

"General strike took effect at noon, April 22, because of failure of conciliation committee to see wage scale after four weeks on the job. The union being strongly composed of Socialists, the latter take it upon themselves to solicit your valued support in urging settlement. The union membership is now approximately nineteen hundred."

The construction of the Alaska railway is under the jurisdiction of the Interior Department. The department has had trouble with the men for some time over the wage scale. The government has been paying 37½ cents an hour, in spite of the fact that miners in the same region are allowed \$5 a day.

The men demanded 50 cents an hour. The matter was put up to the secretary of the Interior Lane, who concluded that 37½ cents was enough. The men decline to accept the decree of Lane. To avoid a strike, Lane finally agreed to submit the matter to a conciliation committee of three, to be appointed by the Secretary of Labor.

Pending the investigation of the conciliation committee, the men went back to work at 37½ cents an hour. The committee consumed a month taking the testimony of employees.

The Interior Department declares that the government had agreed to abide by the decision of the conciliation committee as to the wages to be paid, but insists that the strike was declared as soon as the men's side had been heard before the government side had been given a hearing.

The 1,900 employees of the government engaged in construction work on the railway organized last winter an industrial union, including every body on the job, and applied to the American Federation of Labor in Washington for a charter as a Federal Labor Union. The charter was granted.

Recently, however, the union surrendered its charter and changed its name to the Alaska Labor Union, but promises to return to its affiliation with the A. F. of L. when the wage situation in the territory is adjusted. During the winter the Alaska Labor Union acquired its own town lot at Anchorage and built its own hall.

A small group of the construction men at Anchorage have formed a "regular" union, and applied for a charter. But it seems to be the belligerent Alaska Labor Union that is bringing the government up standing in the fight for higher wages.

## 1,000 HOWITZERS BOUGHT BY SOCIALIST PARTY!

Full description in the million dime column on page four.

The German Socialists in the Reichstag are passing thru unusually crowded times. It would appear that the fourteen members who have been out of harmony with the official majority are joining with Haase's party, thus making the revolutionary minority 32. While the supreme authority of the party has approved anew of the attitude of the majority, it would seem from sundry accounts that the ideas of the minority are gaining ground amongst the rank and file. But Socialist journals in the country are necessarily much divided in their views. It is certain that, like their kindred in all the war-afflicted lands, a large German element desires the end of the have.

The Arbeiter Zeitung, of Vienna, the chief organ of the Austrian Socialist party, in an article on the twenty months of strife and carnage, demands why the war does not cease. Humanity has made untold sacrifices, it says, in those twenty months. At it was hoped the war would end in some weeks! Only their belief in the due re-establishment of peace and their illimitable confidence in the forces of Labour save the Socialists from despair. Austrian Socialists, it is added, feel bitterly the check to international tendencies, but the duty is to set them going again, and they desire to prepare for that, even in these trying days of war.

In Essen and Duisburg, Germany, police raiders have been busy in the offices of socialist journals and the private dwellings of the writers and other employees. In the former centre they captured a brochure on the battle of the proletarian classes, in the latter they secured the last number of the review Die Gleichheit (Equality). They are disappointed with the raiding results, yet these publications provide good reading.

Walter Oeler, secretary of the Mascoth, Ill., local, reports as follows: "We had quite a victory in Mascoth, April 18. Out of three aldermen the Socialists elected two. This gives us three Socialist aldermen out of a total of six in the city council. Mayhap they will make things hum now. The comrades elected are August Mueller and John Boos." This report came in on the letter head of the coal miners' union, showing that the workers at Mascoth are organized politically and industrially for their own emancipation.

## ALWAYS FIGHTING.

Oklahoma Socialists are fighting the registration law of that state. Oklahoma Socialists are ever in a fight of some sort.—FORT WORTH, (Texas) RECORD.

And we might add that the Oklahoma Socialists says know what they are fighting for. The petition registration law seeks to disfranchise the industrial workers and farmers of that state. This move is sponsored by the democratic party and the indications are that there will be no of humanity as it is a socialist doctrinalists get thru with this fight.

## BOOKLOVERS' HOME LIBRARY SETS

For about the cost of paper and binding.

The European war has destroyed the book market of England and made possible this great opportunity for you. Nelson's famous Bible publishers of Edinburgh, overstocked with new Editions, turned to this country for buyers and sold the sets for the mere cost of paper and binding. This opportunity is most unusual—the books are real bargains—but the offer is limited, and to get the sets you must act promptly.

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8 South Dearborn Street, Chicago

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W. SCOTT, 8 South Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir:—Enclosed find \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Library Sets, at \$1.60 per set, as follows:  
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## MAKE EVERY SOCIALIST VOTER AN AMERICAN SOCIALIST READER

### SEND IN THE ORDERS.

Do not let it be said that you didn't do your share to wake up the Henry Dubbs. As a result of that great Henry Dubb Edition, now being circulated all over the land, thousands and tens of thousands of Dubbs are getting the sleep out of their eyes for the first time.

Here's what they did in Utah. The state secretary, C. A. Buchell, ordered a bundle sent to each of 10 local secretaries. That helps!

Owen Roark, of Plainfield, Ind., which is in the Fifth Indiana Congressional district, from which Eugene V. Debs will go to congress after the fall elections, ordered a bundle to push the campaign.

John Peterson claims that Midland, Mich., is the worst Dubb-ridden town in the land. He says the Socialist local is going to pieces for the second time. But he ordered a bundle of the Henry Dubb edition and is going to do the work of revivification.

Walter I. Davis, of Xenia, Ohio, ordered a bundle for distribution among the striking rope and twine workers at that place. He says this is the first strike in the history of the town. Everybody is in sympathy with the strikers. The Dubbs at Xenia are waking up. They want \$2 a day now. Soon they will want Socialism and all its stands for.

"Henry Dubb just arrived in the morning mail and it certainly is an eye-opener," writes Comrade P. H. Reesberg, of Toluca, Ill., in telling of the arrival of his copy of the Henry Dubb Edition. He ordered a bundle of 300 copies.

One of our Ohio comrades, who doesn't want his name mentioned, ordered 200 copies of the Henry Dubb edition sent into the Fifth Indiana district to help elect Debs to congress. "I am sure the volunteers there will distribute the 200 shells to good advantage," he writes. The bundle has been sent to the campaign commander of Hill Five, Indiana.

SEND IN YOUR ORDER NOW! USE THE BLANK AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS PAGE!

### ROLL OF HONOR

Comrade E. B. Schell, financial secretary of the sixth and seventh ward branches of St. Louis, orders seven initiation sub cards.

Comrade John Kenneth Turner comes in with an order for four sub cards all the way from Carmel, Cal.

Comrade W. M. Adams, of Jeannette, Pa., gets 12 sub cards to enlist new readers for the party paper.

One of our Milwaukee comrades sends in a list of eight names. He is sending them to these Henry Dubbs at his own expense. He doesn't want his name mentioned, but says this is the way to elect men like Comrades Dan Hoan and Emil Seidel.

Comrade Peter F. Reding, of Tacoma, Wash., is going to get one of our new knives in return for his plan to sell 16 sub cards.

"It is but child's play to 'split hairs' while there are so many greater matters to occupy our attention," comments Comrade J. M. Carner, of Petoskey, Mich., as he orders four sub cards.

Three dollars roll in from Allgipula, Pa. Comrade John Lazet started them rolling and they will pay for three four-year subs.

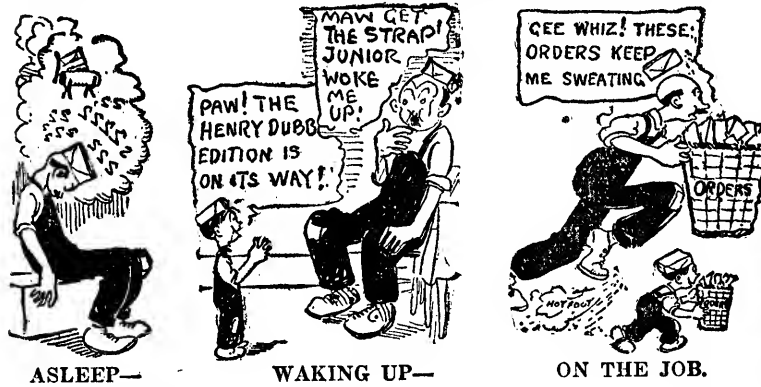
Comrade Thomas Peterson, of Syracuse, N. Y., renews for four years. He was glad we notified him when his sub expired, saying, "I would be very sorry to have my Henry Dubb Edition here, we can dispose of the surplus outside. I have just read my copy of the American Socialist and I am glad to see nothing of Comrade Walker's splendid cartoons of Henry Dubb."

Sparks, Nev., sends in local orders for 23 worth of sub cards in its campaign to make "Dubbsdom a thing of the past."

Frank Whitely, of Bear, Idaho, got hold of that two-page edition containing Meyer London's speech in congress against "preparationness." He decided it was good reading and sends in \$1 for a four-year's sub to The American Socialist.

Comrade F. Crawford, of Kane, Pa., sends in a club of four, father, two sons and a son-in-law. Comrade Crawford receives the sub from the father, who evidently believes that propaganda begins at home.

## Wake Up The Henry Dubbs!



ASLEEP— WAKING UP— ON THE JOB.

### Henry Dubb Edition Order Blank

THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST,  
803 W. Madison St., Chicago.

I'm with you in your campaign to get one million Henry Dubbs to read the HENRY DUBB EDITION of The American Socialist. I am enclosing \$..... to pay for the following:

PLAN NO. ONE.

..... copies of the HENRY DUBB EDITION to be sent to the address below at the rate of one half cent a copy.

PLAN NO. TWO.

..... copies of the HENRY DUBB EDITION to be sent to the list of names and addresses enclosed at the rate of three-fourths of a cent a copy.

PLAN NO. THREE.

..... copies of the HENRY DUBB EDITION to be distributed by The American Socialist's volunteers where they will do the most good.

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

CITY .....

STATE .....

NOTE—Fill in the above carefully and mail at once.

## Henry Dubb's Life History From Generation To Generation



By Ryan Walker

### Why Tony Wanted "Bloody" War

By GRAHAM CLARK  
(Maud Davis Walker)

WITHIN SOUND of where I live a hideous quarry is spoiling one of God's choicest picture-corners, a knoll of red-brown traprock, shaded all the year by tall, deep-green cedars. And the gentle land adjacent to the quarry is marred by unsightly shacks which squat in groups, the habitations of those who burrow and blast into the bowels of the hill to bring forth the traprock to feed to the grinding, groaning crusher whose long snout sticks out so gluttonously. But the appetite of the crusher is an innocent thing as compared with the appetite of the gluttons who own and operate the quarry, for it might be said of the crusher that it converts the stone into gold for the digesting of those who despoil the earth of beauty and rob the workers of their manhood.

Working in this quarry a year ago was Tony, a strapping fellow from Italy. Tony was a temperamental youth with an artistic soul. Of evenings he sat in the filthy yard of another Italian worker and played upon a little accordion till deep into the night. Once I sat and listened to his simple, soulful music till he'd played over his short program a dozen times. Then tenderly he put aside the instrument and wiped the perspiration from his young face, which boasted the classical contour of a Greek statue.

"DO YOU ever dream a better life than this?" I asked him. He smiled; but there was no gladness in his smile. "Why should I dream in America?" he asked. "It is always the same kind of—what you call it?—wake-up. Buzz buzz! sptt! sptt! Off goes the alarm at six and I jump up and eat my hunk of bread and drink my can of coffee and run to the quarry. Why should I dream in America?"

"But America is better than Italy," I ventured.

He shook his head. "Maybe no worse, but not better," he said with marked emphasis.

"Don't you know that today they're fighting, fighting, in Italy? That blood is more plentiful than wine, and men are drunk of it? If you were there now, you'd be a soldier, and maybe one of those who—" I did not finish the sentence; the thought was too horrible.

Tony shrugged his shoulders.

"That's all right," he said. A cold glitter came into his narrowing eyes. "I would not care. Let the blood spurt—let it run deep, everywhere. Don't you hear the music of the fife and drum? Don't you hear the soldiers shouting—yelling? Don't you smell the fight—the hot, wet, sticky fight? And when it's over—" He closed his eyes a second. When he opened them the cold glitter was gone. "When it's over—well, you may

be dead, very quick. If you are alive, you fight some more, or go home to the line. But here you fight and fight all day the thing that hasn't got any blood. You fight the traprock and it hurts your back, your eyes, your here." He touched his chest. "The traprock throws dust into where you get your breath. At night you try to cough it out. You can't. It stays and stays. It would take a blast of powder to get it out. Next day you get a little more. You go to bed a little earlier and want to stay long. But next morning you're back to fight the beast; but no blood to you small. You hear no music of fife and drum. You hear no cheering. Only the thunder of the blasts as the powder rips open the dirt; and the noise of the crusher like it was grinding men's bones. And you hear the big boss say: 'Git a move on you, you god-dam wop.'"

"BUT," I said, "you can leave the quarry and find a job which is not so hard."

"Not so hard?" Tony's voice was harder than the traprock against which he was breaking his fine young body. "Every job is the same for the man that works. Only nice, easy for the big boss. One time I worked in the cotton mills. Worse than the crusher, they were. Here I get the wind and snow; sometimes I get the rain and snow. I get sick all over me. Once I worked where they get the coal—deep, deep down. Ugh, that was the hell!" He shuddered. "Always the thing that kills is watching for you—that what you call it?"

Tony shrugged. "So it's better to fight the thing that has blood. Blood is warm. It makes you excited and you go after it, like the wild beast. You shoot it and kill it, very fast. Very fast. Then all is over and you rest. I have heard of the big war in Italy. The two there next month to fight. Over here the war is the hard, long kind. You die, but maybe you suffer a long, long time first. And never can you get the chance to kill the thing that fights you. It gets all the chance. It whips you, but it is there your blood. Maybe that's it. The cold and hunger and hot and sick, they drink up your blood."

"BUT DON'T you know its human blood they are spilling in Italy?" I asked, horrified. "The blood of your brothers?"

"Ain't I a brother too?" Again the cold glitter was in his eyes. "But they don't care over her—they don't care over there neither—if I am a brother. They kill me with the cold and hunger and hot and sick, with the long, hard work. The traprock, I can't get it. So I'll go back to Italy where there's music and shouting and blood, where we kill very quick—die very quick. What does it matter, anyway? Us god-dam wops got to be killed some way, so it's best to die the nice exciting way."

### YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPT.

Organization—Education—Solidarity.

WILLIAM F. KRUSE - - - Director

To reach the nation's youth with the message of Socialism and to bring them into the organized Socialist movement through Young People's Socialist Leagues.

Address all communications to:  
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REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON Y.P.S.L. AND SOCIALIST SUNDAY SCHOOLS TO OREGON STATE SOCIALIST LEAGUE.

Comrades: We, your committee on Y.P.S.L. and Socialist Sunday School, recommend:

1. That a committee of five, including the State Secretary, who shall be chairman of the committee, be elected committee necessarily delegates to convene in draft and submit plan for State Organization of the Y.P.S.L. and Sunday Schools, at the same time other proceedings are submitted.

We further recommend that this body authorize the following resolution be sent to the National Office of the Socialist Party:

Resolved, That the Socialist Party of Oregon in convention assembled heartily favor the establishment of a National Socialist Sunday School Department; to be under the supervision of the National Office of the Socialist Party of America.

Committee—Victor J. McCone, State Secretary; L. G. Boyd; Mrs. F. M. Oden; W. C. Aylsworth; Pauline Sears.

The St. Louis Y.P.S.L. showed itself made of live stuff when it packed an audience of 250 into the prettily decorated Ashenbrenner Hall for the Kruse lecture. With the sale of tickets and a collection of over \$9 they stand to make a handsome profit. After the meeting twenty-one of the Yipsels, boys and girls, marched two and one-half miles to accompany the speaker to the depot. Cheering and singing and general good time was the rule and all expect this date to mark a new era of better comradeship and better organization in their league.

The Marion (Ind.) league is a small one, newly organized, hence their success was not what it might be. When all is accounted for they will break the record for the meeting, having gained well worth the effort. This meeting shows that there cannot be any great success expected at any where where there are no admission tickets sold.

Indianapolis (Ind.) is on the map all right, and the calm and sedate "Mr. Woman Hater" its members are all "there." A splendid organization session was held after the meeting, the yells were released with a vim, and it was midnight before the jolly group of youngsters finally broke up. Efforts will be made here to extend the scope of the league to all parts of the city, and they hope, later in the summer, to enlist the services of an organizer to help them carry on this work.

## Current Comment

By Walter Thomas Mills

AUTHOR OF "DEMOCRACY OR DESPOTISM"

### THE POINT OF IMMEDIATE ATTACK.

IN ANY war it is not possible to fight the last battle first. Each advanced position is more certainly taken just to the extent that the preceding places of attack have been wisely chosen and completely won.

In the battle for the emancipation of labor to be fought out in this campaign, no one anticipates the immediate inauguration of the co-operative Commonwealth. That hoped-for event will be hastened as the point of attack in this battle is well-chosen and effectively fought for.

A LARGE Presidential vote for the Socialist candidates, and for all State and local candidates will largely increase the grip of the Socialist proposals, and in that way contribute to the winning of the final victory. But by no such vote, however large, within the bounds of reasonable expectation, can a point of strategic advantage be secured as in a fight to put twenty Socialists into Congress.

The Industrial Commission has spoken of the great value to labor of thirty men in Congress who would caucus together, and act together, in behalf of Labor entirely independent of all other parties.

Personally, I am convinced that this number can be secured. If the Socialists can win twenty Districts, certainly those Labor people who are ready to fight the battles of Labor, but are still unwilling to call themselves Socialists, ought to be able to do so.

EVEN twenty men in Congress can force a hearing in behalf of the real interests of the useful people of the whole country in a way that has never yet at any time been possible. That would not be the immediate victory of the Co-operative Commonwealth, but it would be AN immediate victory FOR the Co-operative Commonwealth which would make all other victories more certain, while it would secure more immediate advantages to labor than any other practicable undertaking now in sight.

MEYER London must, by all odds, be returned from New York. His splendid work in Congress must be re-inforced. Oklahoma ought to send four members, Pennsylvania three, New York, Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa two each; Ohio, Michigan, Minnesota, Indiana, Texas and Montana one each.

While it is admitted that only fighting chances are offered, still the farmers of Oklahoma, the manufacturing workers of Pittsburgh, Newcastle, Reading, New York, Schenectady, Chicago and Milwaukee; the mining workers of Northern Michigan, Minnesota and Montana, and the commercial and horticultural workers of southern California may not be able in each instance to elect Socialists, still an effective battle should develop more surprises than disappointments. Twenty Socialists in Congress is the most reasonable and the most desirable of all possible points of attack in the battle now on hand.

Put twenty Socialists into Congress and from that day on the daily struggle will begin, both inside and outside of Congress, with heavy guns which cannot be silenced and never again can be ignored. That will at once electrify the Socialist movement, and the theoreticians and the dreamers, and give it into the hands of practical men and effective fighters. The hour that is done, the day of triumph will surely dawn.

TO WIN in these and other districts, the fight against things will not be sufficient, not even the fight against militarism, not even if there is war with Germany, notwithstanding the infamy of the military program of the Jingo despots of the world.

A victory in these districts, and such a position in Congress can only be won on definite proposals dealing with the national conservation and development of natural resources, the solution of the problems of the high cost of living, of the unemployed, of the poorly employed, with the creation of public enterprises in the place of the private monopolies, in transportation, in manufacturing and in commerce; with the extension of the functions of the aged, and the helpless; with the extension of the elective franchise; and, finally, with the support of the Socialist proposal to make an end of war between the nations by creating a World-Congress representative of all nations and able to compel obedience to an established code of international law, protecting all boundaries and covering all international questions of controversy.

Even the presence of war these things must be urged as the constructive program of the Peace Party; they must be offered as the proposals of the party of peace as against the military inferno actually realized by the war parties of all countries.

FOR MY own part, I am arranging, so far as possible, to help to make this fight for victory in those Congressional Districts where there is a fighting chance for victory. That program will be even more effective in securing a large vote for other national and local candidates than any other.

The fighting slogan for this campaign must be made:

"ON TO WASHINGTON WITH TWENTY SOCIALISTS IN CONGRESS."

### THE BOY SCOUT MOVEMENT.

By a 12-year-old Socialist.

I feel it to be my sacred duty as a young Socialist to give my full expression on this important subject.

Many times I have heard people of different classes talk about it; but most of the time I have heard about it from my class mates in the school room and also by the teacher.

Of course the teachers are almost compelled to do so in order to maintain their positions, because education, like everything else, is mostly controlled by the capitalist class. As to the yellow press, everybody knows what its intention is, preach militarism as much as they can, by telling the young Americans about the flag. Oh! The Flag! about freedom, opportunity, prosperity and a chance to become president of the United States, and patriotism above all.

What makes me feel sorry is to see my very classmates think about organizing such a movement as the boy scouts. Certainly those boys have been poisoned by their parents, who are slaves under the present industrial system and still believe in such foolishness. If they had been taught about liberty to secure a job for 365 days of each year and better wages, certainly they would not mention the boy scouts at all. I will try to describe this unnecessary movement. They begin to march, in and out in the school yard, with the flag. By and by they are induced to buy their own uniforms; to see themselves dressed like an American soldier; they feel proud and ready for action. Next they buy a little rifle (of course with their own pennies) and start to practice shooting; as time passes, as is natural,

then they need a different uniform, and different arms. Next? Ready, to kill! Who? The teachers who taught them such things? No! The capitalist class? Of course not. Then who? His own father. If necessary to protect Mr. Boss. If his father shall attempt to strike for more bread and butter. This has already happened, in this free country. To my school mates I must say this: Remember that our parents have never had a country, neither a flag; their country is where the one above the roof. My father is an Italian born. So am I. Beautiful Italy had no bread for us. We came to this country and were compelled to go from state to state for a mere existence. The same identical situation is that of your parents. For me, if they ever attempt to organize Boy Scout Movement, I will take my coat and go straight home.

The children of my grade are saving pennies to buy a new silk flag. I did have some pennies saved, but not for the flag, but for renewing my subscription for The American Socialist, which expires with the next number.

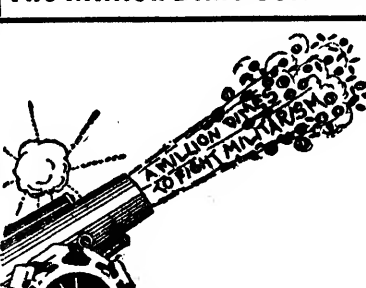
Yours for Socialism in 1916.

Comrade and reader, Chester Bartolini, 12 years old,

1530 So. 49th Ave., Cicero, Ill.

A Stockholm dispatch says that, according to a message from Berlin, German journals have suffered grievously thru the insufficiency of stocks of paper. It is said that 4,000 have ceased publication, and subscriptions for the others are increased by 20 per cent.

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